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By

Epic L. Maldonado

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Attorney Docket No. NEYM 20.501 (100806-00216)

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor: Tomoyuki SAKAGUCHI
Serial No.: 10/616,068
Filed: July 9, 2003
Title: DEVICE AND METHOD FOR...
Examiner: Lam T. Mai
Art Unit: 2819
Conf. No.: 9947

February 5, 2004

Director of the U.S. Patent and
Trademark Office
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

S I R:

In order to comply with discretionary rules 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98, attached hereto is a copy of Form PTO-1449 and copy of the document listed thereon. This document contains information in which the Examiner may consider to be important in deciding whether to issue a patent in the instant application.

Also attached is a copy of a Search Report dated December 10, 2003 from the corresponding United Kingdom Patent Application. The document listed in Form PTO-1449 appears in the Search Report.

Each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

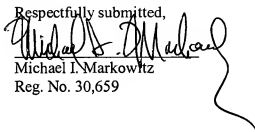
Since this Information Disclosure Statement attached is being filed after the mailing of an Ex Parte Quayle action on January 2, 2004, a fee of \$180 is due.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being submitted in compliance with 37 §CFR 1.56 as an Examiner might consider any cited document important in deciding whether to allow the application to issue as a patent, but the citation of each document is not to be construed as an admission that such document is necessarily relevant or prior art. No representation is intended that the cited documents represent the results of a complete search, and it is anticipated that the Examiner in the normal course of examination, will make an independent search and will determine the best prior art consistent with 37 CFR 1.104 (a), and in the course of such search will review for relevance every document cited on the attached form even if not initialed.

Early and favorable consideration is respectfully solicited.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael I. Markowitz", is written over a horizontal line. A long, thin, curved line extends from the bottom right of the signature.

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DOCKET NO.: NEYM 20.501 (100806-00216)

Patent and Trademark Office U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

1449/PSO

U.S. Department of Commerce
Patent and Trademark Office

Application No. : 10/616.068

Filing Date : July 9, 2003

First Named Inventor: T. SAKAGUCHI

Group Art Unit : 2819

Examiner Name : L.T. MAI

Attorney Docket No. : NEYM 20.501

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	U.S. Patent Document	Kind Code if known ²	Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns Lines Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear

FOREIGN DOCUMENTS

[illegible]

Other Prior Art-Non Patent Literature Documents

Examiner Initials	Cite No.	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.), data, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, country, where published, source.	Applicant check here if English language translation attached
		JPEG2000 STANDARD http://www.jpeg.org/public/fed15444-1.pdf	
Examiner Signature		Date Considered	

Examiner: Initial if referee considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw a line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbol as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST.1 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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